



# CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

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### SWIMMING POOL/SPA GENERAL NOTES

1. Every pool and/or spa shall be fully enclosed by a barrier or fence.
2. The barrier or fence shall comply with the following requirements:
  - a. Minimum height of 5'0 above exterior grade, measured from outside of the pool enclosure.
  - b. Minimum 45" between horizontal members when placed on the outside of the fence.
  - c. Maximum 4" clearance between vertical members
  - d. Decorative cutouts shall not exceed 1.75 inches in width
  - e. Maximum 2" vertical clearance between the bottom of fence and grade (4" max. above concrete finish).
  - f. Chain link mesh maximum size shall be a 2.25 inch square unless provided with slats fastened at the top and bottom which reduce the openings to not more than 1.75 inches.
  - g. Diagonal members shall form openings of no more than 1.75 inches.
3. Gates within a barrier or fence shall comply with the following requirements:
  - a. Comply with all fence requirements.
  - b. Include self closing, and self-latching mechanisms.
  - c. The self-latching mechanism shall be at least 54" above the bottom of the gate, if the latch can be reached from outside the pool area.
  - d. All gates shall swing out of the pool area.
4. Where any wall of a dwelling serves as part of a pool/spa barrier and doors from the dwelling provide direct access to the pool, a drowning prevention safety feature shall be provided. Identify the drowning prevention safety feature to be utilized for this pool installation, **circle one** of the feature letters below:
  - a. Intermediate pool enclosure between the house and pool complying with the requirements of a pool/spa fence or barrier.
  - b. Removable mesh pool fencing that meets ASTM Specifications F 2286, and includes a self-closing and self-latching gate and key lockable device.
  - c. An approved safety pool cover that meets all requirements of ASTM Specifications F 1346.
  - d. Exit alarms on all doors providing direct access to the pool/spa.
  - e. All doors providing direct access to the pool/spa shall be equipped with a self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism placed at 54 inches or more above the floor.
  - f. Permanently installed in pool/spa alarm system, which will sound upon detection of accidental or unauthorized entrance into the water. The pool/spa alarm system shall meet and be independently certified to ASTM Standard F2208.
5. Special inspection is required for shotcrete (gunite).
6. Pool/spa heater vent shall be 4' away from property line.

7. Safety glazing is required in fences, doors and windows, where the glass is within 5 ft. from pool/spa water and less than 60 inches above grade.
8. Door alarms shall comply with the following:
  - a. An alarm shall produce an audible warning when the door and its screen, if present, are opened.
  - b. The door alarm shall sound continuously for a minimum of thirty (30) seconds within seven (7) seconds after the door is opened and be capable of providing a sound pressure level of not less than 85 dba when measured indoor at 10 feet distance.
  - c. The alarm shall automatically reset under all conditions.
  - d. The alarm shall be equipped with a manual means, such as a touchpad or switch to temporarily deactivate the alarm for a single opening. Such deactivation shall last not more than fifteen (15) seconds.
  - e. The deactivation switch shall be located at least fifty-four (54) inches above the threshold of the door.
9. An alternate pool safety feature in lieu of an intermediate barrier, door alarms or self-closing device will be used. The following is the product information:
  - a. Product Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Product Name: \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Installation and coverage plan is attached.
  - d. ASTM testing agency approval letter is attached
10. Structures or metal fences within 5 feet from pool or spa require electrical bonding. Comply with NEC 680-8 for overhead power lines.
11. Electrical outlets within 20 feet from pool or spa shall be GFI.
12. Sound test by acoustical engineer is required to demonstrate that the noise level from the pump is less than 55 Dba at the property line. 10.26.025.8.
13. Pool/spa heating system shall be certified by the manufacturer for the following items:
  - a. Thermal efficiency complies with Appliance Efficiency Regulations
  - b. On-off switch mounted outside of the heater
  - c. A permanent weatherproof instruction plate or card for energy efficient operation
  - d. No electric resistance heating
14. All pool or spa systems and equipment shall have the following:
  - a. At least 36" of pipe between the filter and heater, or dedicated suction and return line, or built-in connection to allow for the future addition of solar heating equipment.
  - b. A cover for outdoor pools or spas if a heat pump or gas heater is used.
  - c. Pool shall have directional inlets to mix the pool water.
  - d. The circulation pump must have a time switch that allows the pump to be set to run in the off-peak electric demand period for the minimum time required to maintain public health standards.
  - e. Pool pumps and pump motors:
    - i. Pool pumps and pump motors: only those listed in the Commission's directory of certified equipment shall be used.
    - ii. All pump flow rates shall be calculated per 150(p)1B of the California Energy Code.
    - iii. Filtration flow rate shall not exceed that to turn over pool water volume in 6 hours or 36 gpm, whichever is greater.
    - iv. Pump motors (for filtration) shall be multi-speed if capacity is greater than 1 hp.

- v. Each auxiliary pool load (spa, water features, etc.) shall be served by a separate pump or multi-speed pump.
  - vi. Multi-speed pump shall have controls that will default to the filtration flow rate when no auxiliary pool loads are operating.
  - vii. Multi-speed pump shall default to the filtration flow rate setting within 24 hours.
  - f. Pool system piping:
    - i. A straight pipe (min. length = 4 x pipe diameter) shall be installed before the pump.
    - ii. Pipe size shall be sized such that at maximum flow the velocity of the water is less than 8 fps in the return line and 6 fps in the suction line.
    - iii. All elbows shall be of sweep elbow or elbow-type that provides less pressure drop than straight pipe length of 30 pipe diameter.
  - g. Pool filters shall be at least the size specified in NSF/ANSI 50.
  - h. Backwash valve shall be same as return pipe diameter, but not less than 2" diameter.
  - i. Pool/spa drain shall be connected to a "P" trap, which drains to the sewer system.
15. The swimming pool/spa shall have at least two circulation drains per pump that shall be hydraulically balanced and symmetrically plumbed through one or more "T" fittings, and that are separated by a distance of at least three feet in any dimension between the drains. (Applicable to new pool/spas only)
16. Suction outlets that are less than 12 inches across shall be covered with antientrapment grates, as specified in the ASME/ANSI Standard A 112.19.8, which cannot be removed except with the use of tools. Slots or openings in the grates or similar protective devices shall be of a shape, area, and arrangement that would prevent physical entrapment and would not pose any suction hazard to bathers.